

WASHINGTON.

—Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable—

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1848.

THE WHIG TRIUMPH.

In announcing in our last number that the Presidential contest had terminated in the election of General TAYLOR and his worthy adjunct MILLAR FILLMORE to the two highest offices of the Government, we offered some reflections on the importance of the contest, and some congratulations to our readers on the happy result of it. The subject is, however, too full of interest to require apology for briefly resuming it. Indeed, it is hardly possible for any reflecting person to estimate too highly the importance of the issue which the people of the United States have just decided, or the magnitude of the interests which hung on that decision. Proportionate, therefore, must be the joy of all those who enrolled themselves on the side of the Whig candidate for the Chief Magistracy of this great country. For ourselves, we confess that when we look back at the long train of evil consequences which have flowed from those elections which gave ascendancy to the anti-national principles, and the aggressive, belligerent, proscriptive, and Jacobine career of the self-styled Democratic party, and contrast them with the pacific, just, patriotic, tolerant, and conservative principles of the Whig party which have now so signally triumphed, we regard the result of the contest with feelings akin to those which must fill the bosoms of men who have just escaped from a city overwhelmed by an earthquake. The antagonistic principles of good and evil were in desperate conflict. A dark and portentous future awaited the triumph of the one; a bright and cheering prospect is opened by the victory of the other. Let us, however, look more in detail at what we have escaped on the one hand, and what we have gained on the other.

General Cass, the Democratic candidate, was the supporter of the existing Administration, and stood pledged to carry out the policy of all the Democratic Administrations from 1829 down. This policy has consisted—

In making war on the business of the country—denouncing the very foundation of commerce, and involving bankruptcy and ruin upon all who trade on credit, the vital element of all trade in free Governments;

In making war on the currency of the country by the establishment of the Subtreasury—the system of the dark ages and of despotic Governments only—and giving one kind of money for the Government and another kind for the People;

In making war on the industry of the country, by refusing to it all protection, and exposing it to the competition of the pauper labor of Europe;

In denying to the Government any constitutional authority to apply public money to public improvement; in denying to it in fact almost every attribute of good, and narrowing its functions almost to the sole powers of taxation and war;

In applying the Executive Veto to laws the most salutary; and assuming for the President the right and duty of negating bills upon mere motives of expediency, and arbitrarily setting up his single opinion as a sufficient warrant for nullifying the will of the People as expressed through their Representatives;

In bringing into existence the anti-social principle of proscription, converting the power of appointment into a cruel and tyrannical engine of "rewards and punishments," and administering the Government on the slavish doctrine that "to the victors belong the spoils;" all alike detestable and at war with the genius of free Government.

In addition to these general principles of action of the Democratic Administrations, the reign of that party has been marked by a disregard of international justice and of the still more graceful quality of national generosity. They first wrested from a weak, and, though erring, yet hardly responsible neighbor, a large district of her territory; and then, on the pretext of coercing the payment of a mass of private claims, good or bad, made cruel and desolating war upon her to force from her a yet larger portion of her country; thus bringing upon ourselves the loss of thousands of valuable lives and millions of treasure, which, had it been deemed constitutional to apply it to the improvement of our country, would have made the desert blossom as the rose.

Had General Cass succeeded to the Presidency, he was not only bound to carry out the principles avowed and practised by his Democratic predecessors, but, animated by the same aggressive spirit and thirst for territorial acquisition which have distinguished them, he would in all probability have attempted some scheme of aggrandizement which might have brought upon us another foreign war, and possibly have endangered the peace of all Christendom; for, when once begun, no one can tell whether and how far war may extend.

All the interests of our country, therefore, foreign and domestic—its internal prosperity and its peace with the rest of the world—were involved in the question whether the candidate of the Democracy, or his opposite, should be placed in the Executive chair. It was a question whether these mischiefs of misrule should be sanctioned by the people and perpetuated indefinitely, or that the whole series of ruinous and dishonoring Democratic principles and practices should be rebuked and disowned by the country. For the honor and true glory and prosperity of our nation, we think God has been done. The stake was the real or wo of a vast and free country, with all the elements of greatness within it if wisely developed. In the election of General TAYLOR we believe that a kind Providence has given success to the best interests of our country; to the cause of peace, justice, and national advancement; and we regard the result not with rude or boisterous exultation over our adversaries, but with the chastened feelings of reverential gratitude.

FROM SANTA FE.—Accounts from Santa Fe to the 11th ultimo state that Col. WASHINGTON's command had arrived within a day's march of that place.

The Indians were reported to be making incursions into every neighborhood, the withdrawal of the United States troops having given them encouragement and confidence.

There is a luxury in the uninterrupted enjoyment of snow, but it is when the first cold wind blows along the cheek that the pride of aristocracy and men power yield to the genuine call of humanity.

THE QUAKERS AND GEN. TAYLOR.

The Locofoco abuse of the Quakers since the election is in striking contrast with the flattery which was lavished on that Society before the election. The Washington Union, amongst other Democratic prints, we remember, was quite in love with the amiable Friends some weeks ago, and thought it impossible they could support General TAYLOR, a military man, for the Presidency; their principles were, on the contrary, in such accordance with the character and habits of General Cass that they would surely give their suffrages for him. But soft words were of no avail with that intelligent, conservative, and conscientious sect. They voted for one whom they believed to be inflexibly honest and conscientious, like themselves, and who, though a brave and successful soldier, is the sincere friend of peace. And now see how the Locofoco tone is changed. We quote the annexed paragraph from the *Pennsylvanian* of Thursday, the leading Democratic journal of Philadelphia:

"THE FRIENDS AND THEIR VOTE.—The Friends in this city and county at the late election voted for Taylor, almost to a man. If the next Administration is a military Administration, these meek and gentle citizens will have themselves only to blame. After all, there is nothing more pleasing than to see the Friends of the victory a franker and more reliable race than their more worldly neighbors, is not a shallow tale. In the Western Reserve of Ohio, the opponents of war and of men of war, refused boldly to vote for Taylor, and so commanded respect for their opinions. Here, with much more pretence to anti-war notions, and with a vast deal more of arrogance and protection against military men and causes, the regular peace advocates allowed themselves, and were supposed to, to become a main element of Taylor's success. Plain folk will not admire the character of the sect the more because of this glaring violation of one of its boasted features; and when broader instances of *hypocrisy* and *inconsistency* are quoted, this memorable specimen must be cited first, because it is the boldest of which we have any record."

This is harsh language, and entirely gratuitous. There is no affinity between the principles or professions of the Quakers and the principles and practices of the Locofoco party. The one are, by their religion, education, and intelligence, naturally conservative and tolerant; the other prone to war, Jacobinism in their tendencies, fierce and proscriptive. There is nothing in common between the two, politically speaking. The idea that the Quakers intended to support General Cass we thought idle at the time, and took the liberty of telling our neighbor the *Union* so. They should not be abused for not doing what they could not consistently do, and what they ought not to have been expected to do.

The Prussian Minister, Baron GERMOLT, with his estimable family, left Washington some days ago on their return home. Baron GERMOLT has resided here as Minister of Prussia for several years, and there have been few of the Diplomatic Corps, at any time, who have won so large a share of public esteem as this enlightened and amiable gentleman—an esteem fully shared by his excellent family—and none have left behind them a sincerer regret than they. Baron G. will be accompanied by his accomplished Secretary of Legation, Mr. LISHKA.

The society of Washington will be glad to learn that Baron GERMOLT will be succeeded by Baron ROENKE, already, by his former residence here, so favorably known and so highly esteemed. He arrived at New York in the last steamer.

RELATIVE RANK OF GENERALS.—An officer of the war of 1812, who amuses himself with such matters, has compiled the following:

Major Generals: Scott, Gaines, Jesup, Taylor, (Butler, Patterson), Worth, Twiggs, (Quitman), Kearny, (dead), Wool, (Pillow, Shields), Persifer Smith, (Cadwalader, and Lane).

Brigadier Generals: Brady, Brooke, Gibson, Arbuckle, Roger Jones, Towson, (Marshall), Churchill, Whiting, Belknap, Pierce, Bankhead, Totten, (Cushing), Riley, Harney, (Price), Garland, Clark, (Morgan, Andrews, Troupdale), Childs. Those in parentheses are disbanded.

Hon. GARRETT DEXTER, of the Louisville District, who has much respect in the last session, and Hon. R. W. THOMPSON, of Indiana, a gifted and eloquent debater, both announce their intention of retiring at the close of the present Congress. Both are men of talents and valuable Members of Congress. We regret sincerely their determination as thus announced.

The Civil Revolution in our Federal Government, not being a revolution of force, but of the ballot-boxes, operating through the Constitution, is not of instant effect, but abides the time of the Laws and the Constitution. Hence the election of ZACHARY TAYLOR will not eject the government of JAMES K. POLK *instantly*, nor on the 4th of March next, as might be supposed; nay, not until the new Congress assembles, and breathes into the whole Government a spirit fresh from the People. The government of ZACHARY TAYLOR is to be the government of Congress, not the government of one man; and hence, before the Whig government can be complete, the new Congress must assemble.

The existing Whig House will save us from further aggressions of Locofocoism, and it may, perhaps, modify the Subtreasury, and better the Tariff, the Senate concurring; but some time will elapse, necessarily, before the fresh-born spirit of the People will be infused into all the branches of the Government.

What, however, we may calculate upon, is a safe, prudent, Constitutional Executive, and that, too, on the 4th of March next.—*N. Y. Express*.

We know of no more sublime spectacle than to witness a peaceful revolution in the Government of twenty millions of people through the agency of little bits of printed paper cast into small wooden boxes made to receive them. In the whole process we see nothing of physical power, nothing of those mere animal instincts and motives which govern our race in all the earlier forms of human society. General Suffrage, as a sovereign authority, regards Man as a reasoning and moral being. The system appeals alone to his intelligence, his cultivated sense of what is right and what is wrong; to decide momentous questions of national policy, and matters of the highest private as well as public interest. The perfection of the system requires that every voter in the nation shall be well informed in all that pertains to republican institutions, and in his duties and rights as an American citizen. Bestow sound moral and intellectual culture on every voter in the republic, and all Whig measures and doctrines that cannot command the support of a majority of the Electors we are willing to see abandoned.

(*Georgia Chronicle*.)

We learn that a new brick house fell down yesterday at Frederick, (Md.) crushing, and perhaps mortally wounding four persons.

POLITICAL TRICKS AND FORGERIES.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS BULLETIN.

The manner in which the canvass has been conducted against Gen. TAYLOR has been mean, contemptible, and wicked. Not content with slanders and misrepresentations, both of Gen. TAYLOR and Mr. FILLMORE, the letters of the former have been mutilated and changed, so as to give them a meaning entirely different from the intention of the writer, and in some cases entire letters have been forged and circulated in his name.

It will be recollected that a letter was published some time since in this city, purporting to be from Gen. TAYLOR to some person, thanking him for the present of a horse, which letter has been extensively circulated and commented upon by the Democratic press throughout the Union, with the view of bringing him into ridicule, and to create the impression, from its faulty composition, that he was not the writer of the public despatches and of other communications which had appeared from him. This letter, we believe, first appeared in the *Delta*, and its errors or deficiencies duly displayed in italics, but that paper has recently stated it was, as it had reason to believe, a fabrication; but we have not yet seen any Democratic paper, which had published and commented on it, make the explanation, *nor will it be done in a single instance*. To contradict falsehood or forgery, when it is discovered, is not a part of the plan for conducting the contest against Gen. TAYLOR. The last case of the kind is a letter that appeared in the *Union*, which, though not exactly a forgery, amounts to pretty much the same thing, and is one of the very nearest attempts that has yet come to our knowledge.

It appears that a young lawyer of Baltimore had addressed a letter to Gen. TAYLOR, putting some impudent inquiries to him, and in a style which induced the old hero to give him a little rebuke; for, in reply to him, he says:

"I beg to inform you that I have uniformly declined yielding to similar requests, in the belief that my opinions, even if I were the President of the United States, would be neither important nor necessary to you; and I regret to add, that I see no reason for departing in the present instance, from that course."

The letter was sent to the *Union* with the following suspicious instruction:

"If you think it will help the cause along, you can publish it, with the exception of my name, to whom it is addressed."

And it was published with the omission of the two words in italics "to you."

On the strength of this letter, thus mutilated so as entirely to alter the tenor of it, which was to convey a rebuke to an intrusive and impudent correspondent, the *Union* writes column upon column to prove how totally unfit Gen. TAYLOR was to fill the high office, as he himself avowed that his opinions as President would have no weight, and that he would, according to the *Union*, be a mere tool, or nose of wax in the hands of others, if elected.

The kindred presses throughout the Union have, of course, taken the cue from the *Union*, and sing the same tune on the subject, and some of them (among others the Boston Post) have actually taken the mutilated paragraph and keep it as a standing motto at the head of their columns.

Though the Northern Party papers have exposed the fraud, not a single Democratic paper has as yet noticed the explanation, or ceases to parade the mutilated letter with a view to injure Gen. TAYLOR!

Such are the miserable shifts and tricks to which his political enemies resort in order to injure the gallant old hero.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS PICTURE.

The scandalous and indecent attack upon the military and private character of Gen. TAYLOR which appeared in the October number of the Democratic Review has met with little sympathy from any one capable of appreciating the difference between true criticism and partisan abuse. The following notice of a portion of the Review's scurrilous onslaught was written by a gentleman who is not only a Democrat, but who knows what he is talking about, and the truth of what he asserts in refutation of the malignant invention of the reviewer:

GEN. TAYLOR AND THE DEMOCRATIC REVIEW.—In the leading article of the Democratic Review for October, entitled "The Election, by the Editor," an onset is made upon the private and military character of Gen. Taylor, so gross, so indecent, so infamous, and so maliciously false, as to deserve the execration of both parties.

It says at the bottom of page 287: "The same want of general conviction which he shows in relation to politics, his conduct portrays in respect of military science, and his personal demeanor exhibits in regard to religious impressions." To this he adds the following note: "It is related, on irrefragable evidence, and is illustrative of character, that the American Bible Society forwarded to the Army of Occupation several hundred bibles for the use of the troops. These bibles were, by order, used for cartridges and wadding. Some of the war troops had complaints of visions in relation to ramming new bibles into their guns on going into battle, and their expressions of dissatisfaction having reached Taylor's ears, he rode up to a regiment at Buena Vista, about to fire, and called out, with an oath: 'Now, then, you cowardly fellows, let us see how you can spread the gospel in Mexico!' That was the last speech heard upon earth by many a pallid soul who passed to its account ere the concussion which followed died upon the ear."

This vile and scandalous falsehood carries relation upon its face. We learn from the highest authority that all the "cartridges" used by Gen. Taylor's army were made in the United States, and the "wadding," an article never used except what is furnished by the cartridge, can only be an invention of this editor's military imagination. As long as this writer confined himself to the fair discussion of Gen. Taylor's military merits, by which he exposed his own ignorance and benefited the General, we only pitied his infatuation. But he will find that such attacks as the foregoing upon the private character of an old soldier, who has gloriously sustained the honor of his country's flag when abandoned by his own Government, will be repudiated and scorned by every honorable man of the Democratic party.

A DEMOCRAT.

"THE FREE-SOIL TRIUMPH" in Massachusetts, according to the Boston Atlas, amounts to this:

They have put the Governor to the trouble of calling an extra session of the Legislature to elect Choicors, at a cost of some \$15,000. This is all they have accomplished politically. The moral aspect of their "triumph" goes to show that there is a popular majority in Massachusetts of one hundred thousand against the principles of "Free-soil." How the moral power of Massachusetts is increased by such acts of stupendous folly!

Upon an examination of the votes given in 281 towns, we find that the Whigs have clear majorities in cities and towns which elect one hundred and thirty-six representatives, the Van Burones in towns and cities which elect thirty-nine, and the Cass men in towns which elect thirteen. This estimate does not include any town in Barnstable county, or in Nantucket, and Dukes. Barnstable county has done nobly. Nantucket we have not heard from.

Remarking on the result of the Presidential election the New York Commercial Advertiser says:

"A great mistake was made by the Democratic party, or more properly speaking, by its representatives in the Executive department of the Government, in pushing the vote of proxy; it was a vigorously just on the eve of the election. Proxy is an unjust thing, generally, among the masses of the people, who neither hold nor aspire to office; they do not like it when it is freely presented to their notice, though they meanly forget it when it is not of recent occurrence."

And the same party made another mistake in suffering or inducing so many office holders to leave their posts of duty and go *speaking* about the country. The people generally have a dislike to see men receiving Government salaries and not doing the work belonging to the offices so largely compensated. We entertain no doubt that, on the whole, votes were lost rather than gained to the Democratic party by the exertions of Mr. Rantoul, Mr. Ely Moore, Mr. McCalla, Mr. Brown, and the other office-holding political missionaries who have been so active in the recent contest."

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

JOSEPH GRAHAM, of Ohio, to be Consul of the United States for Buenos Ayres, in the place of George I. Fairfield, deceased.

GEORGE F. SHELLEY, to be Attorney of the United States for the district of Maine, in the place of Augustine Barnes, resigned.

LUCIAN BARBER, to be Attorney of the United States for the district of Indiana, in the place of Daniel Mace, resigned.

THE PRESIDENT ELECT.

Moderation in victory is the best proof that the victory was achieved by those who deserved it. Gen. TAYLOR, as the representative of a cause, has neither partisans nor political enemies in the intemperate sense of those terms. Men of both parties and of all parties are his fellow-citizens, and they may all expect to share in the blessings of good government under his administration.

We do not mean to intimate the opinion that Gen. TAYLOR will not be decided in his course of policy, or that he will indulge in the weakness of that political philanthropy which would entrust the enforcement of his administrative purposes to unfriendly hands. But we express the hope and entertain the belief that the fatal doctrine of the "spoils," with its proscriptive ferocity, and its relentless spirit of extermination, will receive at Gen. TAYLOR's hands a wholesome correction, and that the whole country will be made to perceive and with joy to acknowledge that it is once more governed by the true spirit of the constitution.

A very able English journal, the *London Examiner*, has taken an intelligent view of American politics, and particularly of Gen. Taylor's position, from which it infers the most auspicious results to this country. It says:

"The nomination of Gen. TAYLOR, and the course of his relations with the party which he is now the declared representative, indicate better prospects in the republican horizon than have been visible for many years. It is yet possible that we may see discretion, moderation, and integrity prevail in the choice of the Chief Magistrate of America. Gen. Taylor is not a trading politician. The qualities he lately displayed in the field, and the judgment with which he lately himself aloof from the extreme party that had obtained his services as a soldier, concentrated public attention and esteem upon him. He is the only man, we believe, since the greater race of American Presidents, who has at once united many parties. By Democrats and Whigs, in primary assemblies, in separate and mixed meetings, he seems to have been nominated. These nominations he appears to have accepted, one after the other, without concealing or suppressing the fact that he held the opinions of the Whigs, and now that the Whigs, as a body, have named him their candidate, he frankly tells them that he will not be a party President. We have here the promise of a brave and honorable man uncommitted with party madness."

The moral force of Gen. TAYLOR's position as President derives its chief element from the fact that he goes into office unpledged, uncommitted, and free to consult the best interests of the country, with a calm reliance upon the good sense and patriotism of the people that they will sustain him in his sincere course of duty. Let party animosities die away in a measure, and then we may indeed hope that his Administration, judged without prejudice, may make an effective appeal to the patriotism and intelligent sense of the country. There are important domestic questions with which, in fact, the existing relations of parties as Whig and Democratic have nothing to do. And probably no man could have been called to the chair of the Chief Magistracy so admirably adapted as Gen. TAYLOR, from character, position, and previous services, to meet these questions and to settle them judiciously. The very fact that a man has been elected to the Presidency in the face of his refusal to express any specific opinion, one way or the other, concerning the Wilmot Proviso, carries in itself a strong confirmation of the deep and abiding confidence which the people of all sections of the country have in his good sense, his moderation, firmness, and patriotism. Without knowing precisely what he will do, they are persuaded that he will do what is right and reasonable in the circumstances under which he may be called to act.—*Baltimore American*.

THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION.—The election of Gen. TAYLOR to the office of President of the United States is now placed beyond a doubt. Should the life of this fortunate individual be continued to the fourth day of March next, he will take his seat as Chief Magistrate of the Union, and an entirely new administration of the Federal Government will commence. For twenty years, without any material interruption, the ultra-democratic party have controlled the councils of the nation, and shaped its destinies exclusively to their own party ends and purposes. This power was crushed and scattered to the winds, by the voice of the American people, on Tuesday last. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

During these twenty years the administration of the Federal Government may be compared to the leg of mutton which Dr. Johnson had for dinner on the road to Oxford, "as bad as bad can be; ill fed, ill killed, ill kept, and ill dressed." The rulers were bad, their principles were bad, their professions were bad, their measures were bad, the means and instruments used in accomplishing their measures were bad, and all were so bad together that it was a puzzle to say which was worst. The few exceptions afforded by the short predominance of Whig counsels in the Government only made the badness of these bad things more striking by contrast.

During these twenty years the country suffered the lot of a patient subjected to the experiments of an army of quack doctors. Nothing was done for the health of the body politic, but its ill-being was sacrificed for the benefit of quack nostrums. The legislation of the country was made the instrument of every mad scheme, every whimsical crocheted, and every extravagant hallucination that could be engendered in the brains of political charlatans and desperadoes, till the very name of experiment became a byword and a mockery. The teachings of wisdom, the lore of experience, the warnings of history, the admonitions of justice were disregarded in the fury of a blind party zeal, and a corrupt, greedy, and shameless scramble for power and the emoluments of office.

No community under the sun ever possessed the elements of national prosperity in greater abundance and vigor than they existed in the United States during this period of misgovernment. Could bad rulers have ruined this nation its fate had been sealed. But, thanks to the wisdom of those who framed our political institutions, they possess a conservative and elastic energy which is ever opposing a resistance to the action of unfriendly causes. Perpetually harassed, teased, hampered, and perplexed by its rulers with foolhardy projects, and tamperings and tinkering in the most vital parts of the machinery of trade and industrial economy, the country prospered, not by the help of those who governed it, but in spite of them. Catastrophes, the work of rash hands, prompted by ignorant heads, overwhelmed the land from year to year. "Better currency" conspiracies against the general wealth swept away millions of property in an instant, and made beggars alike of rich and poor. But the vigor of youth was in every limb and joint and muscle of our social system, and we bore up against these inflections. Like an Indian captive at the stake, we got sleep and strength in the intervals of our torture. The institutions of the country were good, and the best proofs of their goodness is that they have survived twenty years of bad rulers, beginning with Andrew Jackson and ending with James K. Polk.

Thank Heaven, these days are over. We are now to take a new start under better auspices. We have secured an honest man for President, and we shall soon see the General Government under the direction of honest counsellors. We shall enjoy the benefits of a system of foreign policy and a course of domestic legislation which will be animated by an honest desire to sustain the national honor and promote the national welfare. Our President elect is not a trading politician, who comes into office with a party mortgage upon his principles, and a score of electioneering debt upon the ledger of his conscience, which he must pay off by

a corrupt distribution of public offices and a dishonest compliance with party dictation. He is a Whig of the true sort, a constitutional Whig. The American people have selected him for their Chief Magistrate, not solely on account of the abilities he displayed in the battle-field, but for his reputation as an honest man, free from the grovelling passions and the gross entanglements of party. We augur the happiest results from a career begun under such noble and encouraging auspices.—*Boston Courier*.

The Hon. M. FILLMORE, Vice President elect, and Mrs. FILLMORE, arrived in the city of New York on Tuesday. The Hon. JOHN A. COLLIER is also there.

M. LE VASSIER, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the French Republic to Mexico, was among the passengers in the Royal Mail Steamer *Gred Western*, for Vera Cruz, at New Orleans, on the 4th.

TRUTHS INADVERTENTLY SPOKEN.—The Locofoco papers, finding nothing to crow over, have taken to philosophy for consolation in their adversity. The *Trenton Daily News*, for instance, thus soliloquizes:

"It is a capital thing to be beaten occasionally; it teaches many a useful lesson. It makes politicians less arrogant, and more disposed to defer to the opinions of others. It destroys the old combinations and opens the way for new. It leads to new views of national policy; gives freshness to discussion, and elicits principles before hidden. It compels the nation to progress," &c.

Very good philosophy, and none the worse for seeming to be of somewhat a penitential character. (*North American*.)

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN.

A CONTRAST.—It would seem by the following extracts from the Government paper in Washington and the Government paper in Philadelphia that the donors disagree as to the cause of Cass's defeat:

From the Washington *Union*.—Never did the Democracy of this country labor harder than at the late election. Never were they more aroused; never have their abject and most effective men toiled with more energy and zeal. If we could not command success, we at least deserved it. Such a display of the faculties of the human mind, never well intended, are neither in good taste themselves, nor consistent with the truth.

We submit that this method of snubbing the Court Journal after election day is, according to our respected friend Dogberry, "tolerable and not to be endured."

The Charleston Mercury of Wednesday gives only partial returns from three counties in Georgia; and it states this curious fact about Richmond county, viz: that "in three precincts the Whig majority is 234—over 200 voted who are not residents of the county."—*Union of yesterday*.

The above fact is so significantly stated by the "Union," as to imply improper conduct on the part of the Whigs. We presume that the non-resident Whigs who voted in the precincts alluded to were entitled to vote under the laws of Georgia. At all events, half as many Democratic non-residents exercised the same privilege in the same precincts. This fact we learn from the Democratic organ at Augusta. Why did not the "Mercury" and "Union" tell the whole story?

DANIEL WEBSTER ON ABOLITION.—Hon. Daniel Webster said in a late speech:

"I say that all agitators and attempts to disturb the relations between master and slave, by persons not living in the slave States, are unconstitutional in their spirit, and in my opinion, productive of nothing but evil and mischief. I countenance none of them. The manner in which the governments of those States where slavery exists are to regulate it, is for their own consideration, under their responsibility to their constituents, to the general laws of propriety, humanity, and justice, and to God. Associations formed elsewhere, springing from a feeling of humanity, or any other cause, have nothing whatever to do with it. They have never received any encouragement from me, and they never will. In my opinion, they have done nothing but to delay and defeat their own professed objects."

STATE BANK OF ILLINOIS.—The charter of this bank expired on the 31st ultimo. We learn from the Springfield Journal that the Governor of Illinois, by authority of the last Legislature, has appointed Messrs. N. H. Ridgely, Uri Manly, and John Calloun trustees, for finally closing its affairs. The Board of Directors have assigned to those trustees all the effects of every kind of the Bank, and have given them full power to do every thing necessary for the performance of the trust.—*St. Louis Republican*.

A WRIG OF "SEVENTY-SIX."—Jonathan Harrington, of Lexington, the last survivor of the battle of Lexington, who is now above ninety years of age, walked one mile and a half on Tuesday, and deposited the first vote for Zachary Taylor in that town.

Hon. JOSEPH GRINNELL, according to a correspondent of the New Bedford Mercury, kept an evening school on Prospect Hill, in New Bedford, thirty-eight years ago. He was then an intelligent and worthy young man, and at that time a clerk. Afterwards, he was Deputy Collector in the Customhouse; and still onward, when he became a merchant in the city of New York, and where he, in connection with Preserved Fish, established the firm of Fish & Grinnell, from which house the present firm of Grinnell, Minton & Co. sprung. Mr. Grinnell became one of the most prominent merchants of this emporium of trade and commerce, and here, as elsewhere, maintained the character of an industrious, honest, and worthy citizen, always respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He has proved himself well worthy of the approbation and confidence of his constituents.

ARKANSAS.—The General Assembly of Arkansas convened on Monday, the 6th inst., at Little Rock. An unusual amount of business will come before it. United States Senators to fill two unexpired terms, and a United States Senator for the term of six years from the 4th of March next, have to be elected. The amendments of the constitution giving the election of Judges, Prosecuting Attorneys, &c. to the people will also come before the Legislature for ratification. The Van Buren Intelligence says: "From all we can ascertain of public sentiment there is no doubt that those amendments will be ratified; and we believe a law under the provisions of those amendments will be passed at the early part of the session to enable the people of the several circuits to elect their judges and Attorneys before the convening of the courts."

PALESTINE.—Our contemporary of the Post takes the defeat of his party with the most commendable coolness, and appears disposed to abandon his political studies, having suddenly taken an interest in nautical affairs. He says:

"We are studying navigation—if any of our friends will lend us a correct chart of the Red Sea it may be of service. The one the Atlas sent us is nearly worn out after four years' use by that paper, and besides, the Atlas cut out that portion which runs through Massachusetts for its own benefit."

Dr. HOYT, the postmaster at Paris, (Ky.) published a card in the last number of the *Paris Citizen*, in which he says the documents found in his cellar were not placed there with a view to their concealment. "In mailing the matter for the cross mails," says he, "the bags would not contain all the documents for these offices, and, at the suggestion of Master Charles B. Talbot, an assistant in my office, and by my direction, the remainder were placed in the box in the cellar, with the expressed intention of mailing them at the next subsequent mail, but by that time it escaped my memory." It seems also that there were Democratic documents among them. The statement of Dr. Hoyt is accompanied by several certificates. We are gratified to learn that, in the opinion of the editor of the citizen, the postmaster stands fully acquitted of an intention to do wrong, and that the whole matter was the result of forgetfulness.

The Union says that "a Whig triumph must always be an accident." Well, all we can say is, that in the present instance it has been the most deliberately sought-for accident that we ever read of or heard talked of; and, moreover, it was an accident that our friend of the Union very deliberately endeavored to prevent.—*Alex. Gazette*.

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

FROM THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE.

The plan of organization adopted by the Board of Regents in execution of the trust committed by Mr. Smithsonian to the honor, intelligence, and good faith of the United States, is very properly based upon the literal interpretation and distinct logical significance of the terms "increase and diffusion of knowledge," occurring in that clause of Mr. Smithsonian's will which declares the object of the testament to be "to found at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." These terms are never used as synonyms by persons engaged in the scientific pursuits, to which Mr. Smithsonian devoted his life, and their diverse import is clearly recognized in the formation, both in Europe and America, of numerous associations, which severally contemplate the promotion of only one of their objects. Many of our scientific societies seek to increase the store of human knowledge by the discovery of new truths; while our lyceums, our libraries associations, our young men's and mechanics' institutes contemplate only the "diffusion of knowledge among men." To promote the increase of knowledge the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution propose, first, the offering of rewards for memoirs containing new truths, in the expectation of thereby stimulating men of talent to make original researches; and, second, to appropriate annually a portion of the income, for particular researches, under the direction of suitable persons. The circulation of these memoirs and of the results of the proposed researches will operate extensively to disseminate information; and, by the publication in additional tracts of periodical reports on the progress of the different branches of knowledge, and occasionally of separate treatises on subjects of general interest, it is believed that the other great object, the diffusion of knowledge, will be effectively advanced.

The act of Congress establishing this Institution contemplates the formation of a Library, and of a Museum of Objects of Nature and of Art, to effect which the Regents have appropriated half the income of the Institution. The details of this part of the plan seem to be very judicious. The Library is to consist of a collection of the transactions and proceedings of all the learned societies in the world, the principal periodical publications, such valuable works as are not to be found in any of the libraries in the United States, and catalogues of all considerable domestic and foreign libraries. The fund to be devoted to the formation of the Museum not admitting of an indiscriminate collection of objects of rational curiosity and interest, such articles will be primarily sought as are not elsewhere to be found in this country, and those especially which are calculated to illustrate the memoirs that may be published by the Institution, or to establish their correctness. A collection of instruments of physical research is also to be secured, being required both in the illustration of new physical truths, and in the scientific investigations to be undertaken by the Institution.

From the remarks of Professor Henry, the Secretary, appended to the programme